THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The World Bank has cancelled the undrawn balance amounting to US $ 165.541 million with effect from 29-3-1993. Exact amount required in Indian Rupees has not yet been worked out. The modalities of making the funds available for Sardar Sarovar Project including the method of distribution will be discussed in a meeting being fixed shortly by the Union Ministry of Finance.

(e) No, Sir.

Irrigation Projects in Madhaya Pradesh

227. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of major and medium ongoing projects in Madhya Pradesh alongwith their projected capacities as on date, district-wise;

(b) what is the present status and the amount spent thereon so far; and

(c) by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) An Annexure giving the details of ongoing Major and Medum Irrigation Projects in Madhya Pradesh is attached. [*See* Appendix CLXIX, Annexure No. 13.]

Solution of Cauvery Dispute Between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu

228. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh steps have been taken by the Central Government to solve the Cauvery dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; if so the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal was constituted by Government of India on June 2, 1990 to adjudicate the water dispute regarding inter-State river Cauvery and the river valley thereof. The Tribunal passed an order on June 25, 1991 directing the State of Karnataka to ensure release of 205 TMC ft. of water into Mettur reservoir of Tamil Nadu with monthly and weekly stipulations and to restrict the area of irrigation in Karnataka portion of Cauvery basin up to 11.2 lakh acres. Also, the State of Tamil Nadu is required to release 6 TMC ft. of Cauvery water for Karaikal region of Pondicherry.

In its order, the Tribunal has stated that the Order remains operative till the final adjudication of the dispute, referred to the Tribunal.

The Order was published in the Official Gazette on December, 10, 1991 after seeking opinion of the Supreme Court, so that it becomes binding on basin States.

Subsequently, on April 3, 1992 while disposing off Civil Miscellaneous Petition No. 15 of 1991 filed by the State of Karnataka, the Tribunal clarified in its order that in case there is any change of circumstance of undue hardship is caused, in a particular year to any party, such party can approach the Tribunal for Appropriate orders.

Linkage of Rivers in North and South

229. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revived the plan for linkage of rivers in the North and South to ease the water problem in the South and the flood problem in the North;

(b) if so, what is the present stage of the proposal;

(c) what is the estimated cost of the linkage project; and

(d) whether the World Bank's assistance is proposed to be sought for this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (d) A National Prespective for water Resources Development prepared by Government envisages inter-linkages between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers separately for transfer of water from water rich basins to water short basins for optimum utilisation of water resources. Government has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) in 1982 for firming up these proposals. A total of 36 water transfer links, 17 under Peninsular component and 19 under Himalayan component have been identified by NWDA.

While office studies of 12 links under Peninsular component have been completed, studies of balance Peninsular links and all links under Himalayan component have been included in VIII Plan. In addition, investigation of 9 links of Peninsular component and 3 links of Himalayan component have been included in the VIII Plan Programme of the Agency. In the absence of detailed project reports the cost aspect and its source of funding cannot be firmed up.

Extent of Water-Logged and Saline Areas in the Country

230. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Shri Desai, ex-Advisor to the Planning Commission to identify the extent of waterlogged and saline areas in irrigated command in the country;

(b) what are the recommendations of the Committee the remedial measures suggested by it;

(c) whether the Desai Committees report has been published by Government; and

(d) whether the recommendations of the Committee have been accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) The Working Group was set up under the Chairmanship of Shri C. G. Desai, Adviser (I&CAD), Planning Commission with representatives from Ministry of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Central Ground Water Board, Central Water Commission and Command Area Development Wing of the Ministry of Water Resources to identify the problem areas affected by water-logging/salinity/alkalinity in existing irrigation projects in the country based on available data and to suggest suitable remedial measures for tackling the problem.

(b) The Working Group inter-alia recommended preventive and remedial measures which included mainly monitoring of ground water levels and excess salt consideration, maintaining drainage network and providing drainage system, wherever necessory, in the command areas.

(c) and (d) The report of the Working Group have been circulated to the States and other concerned Ministries/Organisations inviting their views for taking necessary steps on the recommendations made by the Working Group.

Water Scarcity

231. SHRI GHUFRAN AZEM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "Massive water scarcity predicted" as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 8-11-93;

(b) if so, whether a study conducted by Population Action International, it has been revealed that by the year 2025 there would be chronic water scarcity; and